



State of Connecticut

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March 17, 2010

Testimony of Senator Toni Boucher
**In Support of HJ 65, RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO ABIDE
BY THE TENTH AMENDMENT.**

Chairman Slossberg, Chairman Spallone, Ranking Member McLachlan, Ranking Member Hetherington, and distinguished members of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, today I testify in support of HJ 65, Resolution Memorializing Congress to Abide by the Tenth Amendment.

This resolution would strengthen the bond between Connecticut and the federal government by extending the lines of communication on crucial legislative matters that directly affect the states. This legislation is in response to what many of my constituents and I perceive as a continued pattern of federal intrusion into what historically should be state authority and powers. As you are all aware, under the Tenth Amendment of the Constitution all powers not explicitly granted to the federal government are retained by the states. My support of this resolution is a response to my constituents who feel that this clause has been ignored for too long, and that the Connecticut General Assembly should communicate to Congress that they should acknowledge the concerns of state residents. The current health care legislation under consideration by the United States Congress is one example of the federal government overstepping its constitutional authority. Education mandates are another.

Again, the intention of this legislation is to provide enhanced communication with our federal government. It also expresses the concern of many residents of Connecticut who feel our federal government should allow our state to retain sovereignty when addressing deeply personal issues, such as health care and education reform. Thank you again for the opportunity to speak in favor of HJ 65.